

Springfield, Michigan

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended September 30, 2004 Michigan Dept. of Treasury, Local Audit & Finance Division 496 (3-98), Formerly L-3147

AUDITING PROCEDURES REPORT

Issued under P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended. Filing is mandatory.

| Local Government Type | | Local Government Name | | | Coun | itv | |
|--|---------------------|---|-------------|-----------------|---------------|--------|--------------------|
| [] City [] Township [] Village [x] Ot | her | Battle Creek Area Transp | ortation S | Study | 000 | - | Calhoun |
| Audit Date | Opinio | on Date | | Accountant Re | port Submitte | | |
| 9/30/04 | | 11/19/04 | | 01/13 | /05 | | |
| We have audited the financial statements in accordance with the Statements of the Financial Statements for Counties and Lo | | rnmental Accounting Stand | arda Daar | ~ (C (CD) ~~E | | | |
| We affirm that: | | | | | JAN 2 | 2 0 | 2005 |
| We have complied with the Bulletin for | or the . | Audits of Local Units of Gov | ernment i | in Michigan as | revised. | | į |
| 2. We are certified public accountants re | egister | red to practice in Michigan. | | L | OCAL AUDIT | & FIN | ANCE DIV. |
| We further affirm the following. "Yes" resp of comments and recommendations | onses | have been disclosed in the | financial | statements, in | cluding the | notes | , or in the report |
| You must check the applicable box for each | ch iten | n below. | | | | | |
| [] Yes [x] No 1. Certain co | mpon | ent units/funds/agencies of | the local (| unit are exclud | ed from the | finan | cial statements. |
| [] Yes [x] No 2. There are earnings (| accu P.A. 2 | mulated deficits in one or 75 of 1980). | more of | this unit's un | reserved fu | nd ba | alances/retained |
| [] Yes [x] No 3. There are 1968, as a | instar mende | nces of non-compliance wit ed). | h the Uni | form Accounti | ng and Bud | getin | g Act (P.A. 2 of |
| [] Yes [x] No 4. The local unit has violated the conditions of either an order issued under the Municipal Finance Act or its requirements, or an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act. | | | | | | | |
| [] Yes [x] No 5. The local unit holds deposits/investments which do not comply with statutory requirements. (P.A. 20 of 1943, as amended [MCL 129.91], or P.A. 55 of 1982, as amended [MCL 38.1132]). | | | | | | | |
| [] Yes [x] No 6. The local unit has been delinquent in distributing tax revenues that were collected for another taxing unit. | | | | | | | |
| [] Yes [x] No 7. The local unit has violated the Constitutional requirement (Article 9, Section 24) to fund current year earned pension benefits (normal costs) in the current year. If the plan is more than 100% funded and the overfunding credits are more than the normal cost requirement, no contributions are due (paid during the year). | | | | | | | |
| [] Yes [x] No 8. The local u 1995 (MCL | init use . 129.2 | es credit cards and has not 241). | adopted a | an applicable ¡ | policy as req | luired | by P.A. 266 of |
| [] Yes [x] No 9. The local u | nit has | s not adopted an investmen | t policy as | required by F | .A. 196 of 1 | 997 (| MCL 129.95). |
| We have enclosed the following: To Be Not Forwarded Required | | | | | | | |
| The letter of comments and recommendate | tions. | | | х | | | |
| Reports on individual federal financial ass | istanc | e programs (program audits | s). | | | | x |
| Single Audit Reports (ASLGU). | · | | | | | | х |
| Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) REHMANN ROBSON GERA | ALD. | DESLOOVER, CPA | | | | | |
| Street Address | .LD J. | DEGLOCVER, CFA | City | | State | Zip | |
| 5800 GRATIOT, PO BOX 2025 Accountant Signature | //. | 1 24 | 1 ' | GINAW | MI | | 48605 |
| Johnson | 10 | son_ | | | | | |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Independent Auditors' Report | 1 |
| Financial Statements for the Year Ended September 30, 2004 | |
| Statement of Net Assets | 2 |
| Statement of Activities | 3 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 4 |
| Notes to Financial Statements | 5-8 |
| Supplemental Schedules | |
| Schedule of Expenses by Funding Source - Budget and Actual | 9-10 |
| Schedule of Allowable Costs (Exclusive of Costs Provided by Local Governments) | 11 |

* * * * * *

An Independent Member of Baker Tilly International

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

November 19, 2004

Policy Committee Battle Creek Area Transportation Study City of Battle Creek, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study as of and for the year ended September 30, 2004, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Study's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

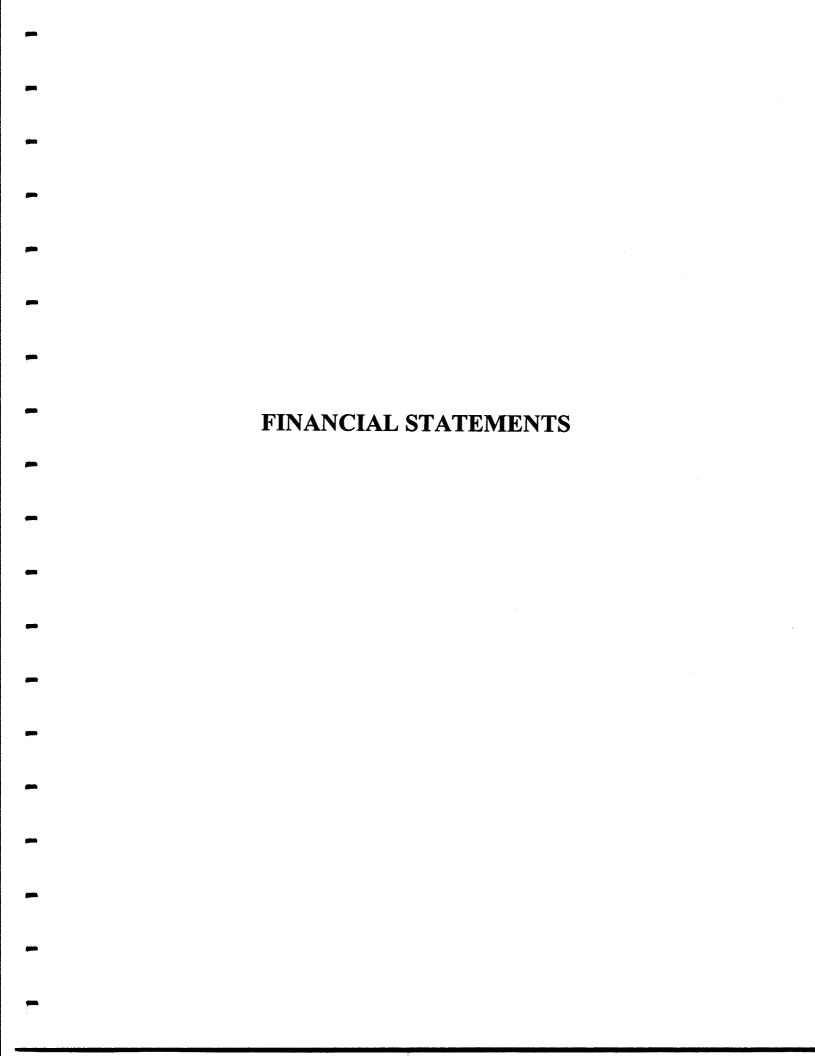
We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study as of September 30, 2004, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Study has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) as required supplementary information that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be, part of the financial statements.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all materials respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Rehmann Lobson



Statement of Net Assets September 30, 2004

| Assets | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Current assets: | |
| Cash | \$ 25 |
| Accounts receivable | 3,582 |
| Due from grantor agencies | 29,304 |
| Due from City of Battle Creek | 12,282 |
| Total current assets | 45,193 |
| Capital assets, net | 4,551 |
| Total assets | 49,744 |
| Liabilities | |
| Current liabilities: | |
| Accounts payable | 6,245 |
| Accrued payroll | 3,874 |
| Due to grantor agencies | 1,366 |
| Accrued compensated absences | 6,318 |
| Total liabilities | 17,803 |
| Net assets | |
| Invested in capital assets | 4,551 |
| Unrestricted | 27,390 |
| Total net assets | \$ 31,941 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended September 30, 2004

| | Program revenue - operating grants and contributions | | |
|----------|--|---------------|---------|
| | Federal grants: | | |
| | Federal Highway Administration | \$ | 110,631 |
| | Federal Transit Administration | | 24,212 |
| | State grant | | 8,802 |
| - | Local government contributions: | | |
| | City of Battle Creek | | 21,273 |
| | Calhoun County Road Commission | | 14,504 |
| - | City of Springfield | | 2,008 |
| | Other revenue | · | 154 |
| | Total program revenue | | 181,584 |
| | Expenses - transportation studies | | |
| | Data collection and analysis | | 60,130 |
| | Long range transportation planning | | 18,973 |
| _ | Short range transportation planning | | 2,802 |
| | Special projects and studies | | 35,476 |
| | Public involvement | | 11,079 |
| | Program development and management | | 45,770 |
| | Non-grant activities | | 70 |
| | Total expenses | | 174,300 |
| gialli v | Change in net assets | | 7,284 |
| | Net assets, beginning of year | | 24,657 |
| | Net assets, end of year | \$ | 31,941 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended September 30, 2004

| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Receipts from other governments | \$ | 177,786 |
| Payments to employees | • | (124,853) |
| Payments to suppliers | | (52,933) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | | - |
| Cash, beginning of year | | 25 |
| Cash, end of year | \$ | 25 |
| Reconciliation of operating income to net | | |
| cash provided by operating activities Operating income | ф | 7.004 |
| Adjustments to reconcile operating income to | \$ | 7,284 |
| net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | | 5 220 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: | | 5,230 |
| Receivables | | (5,164) |
| Due from City of Battle Creek | | (12,282) |
| Accounts payable | | 1,599 |
| Accrued expenses | | 4,959 |
| Due to grantor agencies | | 1,366 |
| Due to City of Battle Creek | ***** | (2,992) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$ | - |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes To Financial Statements

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

The Battle Creek Area Transportation Study ("Study") is an intermunicipality committee organized under Michigan Public Act 200 of 1957. The Study's purpose is to assist in the development and preservation of a safe, effective, well-maintained, efficient, and economical transportation system for the Battle Creek metropolitan area which minimizes its negative impacts on the physical and social environments and related land use. The Study is not a component unit of any other government.

Basis of Accounting

The Study uses a single proprietary or enterprise fund to account for and report its financial activities. The financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. The Study follows private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, unless those standards conflict with guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The Study has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

Cash

The Study's cash consists of \$25 in petty cash on hand. The Study does not maintain its own depository accounts. The City of Battle Creek (a member government of the Study) maintains accounting records, deposits cash receipts and processes cash disbursements through the City's pooled cash accounts. The amount reported as due from City of Battle Creek at year end represents the balance of the Study's interest in the pooled cash account of the City at year end.

Capital Assets

Equipment is recorded at cost and is depreciated using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of three to five years.

Notes To Financial Statements

Compensated Absences

It is the Study's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation leave pay benefits up to a maximum of fifteen days or the equivalent of three normal work weeks. All vacation pay is accrued when incurred since 100 percent of the unused benefits are payable upon employee separation from service with the Study.

2. DUE FROM GRANTOR AGENCIES

Amounts reported as due from grantor agencies represent the difference between costs eligible for reimbursement and the amount received to date. The details of amounts due from grantor agencies are as follows:

| FHWA, Section 112 Billed 2003 cost settlement 2004 cost settlement Total FHWA, Section 112 | \$ 16,341 (786) |
|--|------------------------|
| FTA, Section 8 | |
| Billed | 3,263 |
| 2003 cost settlement | (197) |
| 2004 cost settlement | 708 |
| Total FTA, Section 8 | 3,774 |
| MDOT – M-Fund | |
| Billed | 5,478 |
| 2003 cost settlement | (383) |
| 2004 cost settlement | 238 |
| Total MDOT – M-Fund | 5,333 |
| Total due from grantor agencies, net | \$_27,938 |

Notes To Financial Statements

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2004, was as follows:

| | | ginning alance | In | icreases | <u>D</u> | ecreases | | Ending Balance |
|--|-----------|-------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Capital assets, being depreciated - Equipment | \$ | 60,166 | \$ | - | \$ | 8,781 | \$ | 51,385 |
| Less accumulated depreciation for - Equipment | | 50,385 | | 5,230 | | 8,781 | | 46,834 |
| Capital assets, net | <u>\$</u> | 9,781 | <u>\$</u> | (5,230) | <u>\$</u> | _ | <u>\$</u> | 4,551 |

4. OPERATING LEASES

The Study leases office space from the City of Springfield (a member government of the Study) under an operating lease. The lease is a ten-year non-cancelable operating lease requiring annual payments of \$4,000 through October 2012. The following is a schedule of future minimum lease payments required under this operating lease as of September 30, 2004:

| Years Ending September 30 | Amount |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 2005 | \$ 4,000 |
| 2006 | 4,000 |
| 2007 | 4,000 |
| 2008 | 4,000 |
| 2009 | 4,000 |
| 2010-2013 | 16,000 |
| Total | \$ 36,000 |

During the year ended September 30, 2004, the Study had rent expense of \$4,000.

Notes To Financial Statements

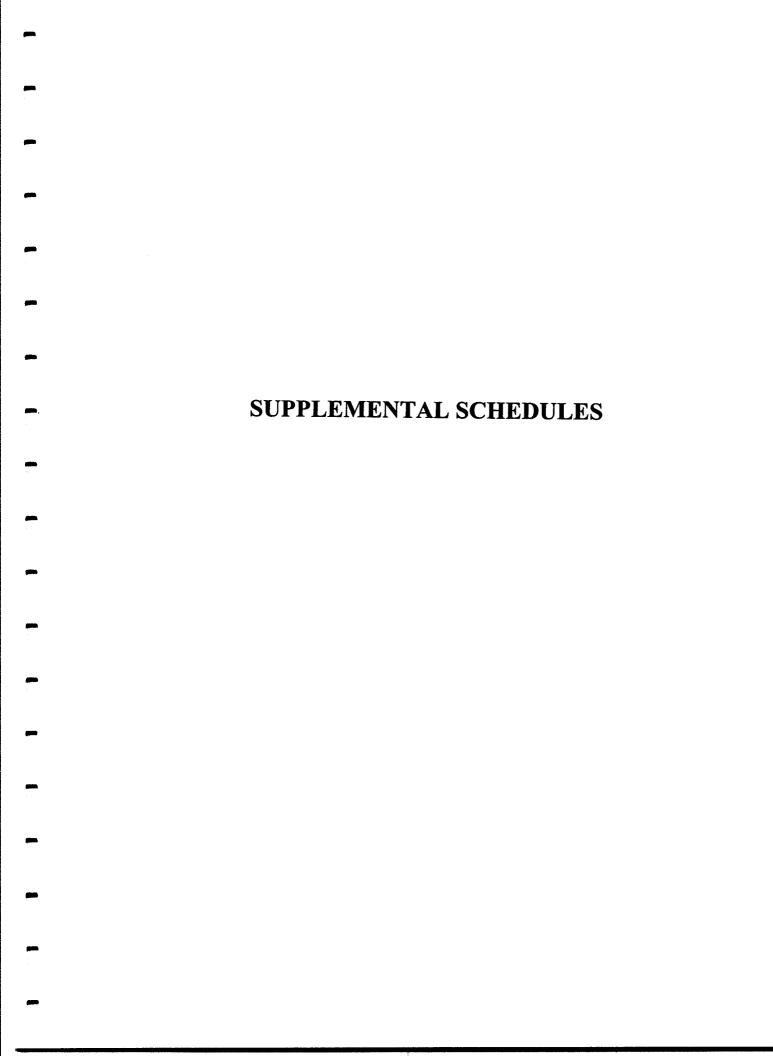
5. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Study is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended September 30, 2004, the Study carried commercial insurances to cover all risks of losses. The Study has had no settled claims resulting from these risks that exceeded their commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

As discussed previously, the Study has entered into certain agreements with member governments. The two agreements are with the City of Battle Creek for accounting services and with the City of Springfield for the lease of office space. During the year ended September 30, 2004, the Study paid accounting service fees to the City of Battle Creek in the amount of \$3,300 and rent expense to the City of Springfield in the amount of \$4,000.

* * * * * *



Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Schedule of Expenses by Funding Source - Budget and Actual (Continued) For the Year Ended September 30, 2004

| | | Federal Highway Administration | y Administratior | | | Federal Transit Administration | Administration | |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Section | Section 112 Funds | | | Section | Section 8 Funds | | |
| , | Project . | ject Agreement | | | Project A | Project Agreement | , | , |
| | *2002-con7# | #2003-0001(26) (Job#/3442) | Local Match | Match | #2003-0001(Z5) (Job#73581) | (Job#73581) | Loca | Local Match |
| Element Description | Budget | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Actual |
| DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS 1.0000 Data Collection and Analysis | \$ 42,223 | \$ 34,022 | \$ 9,363 | \$ 7,544 | \$ 7,282 | \$ 5,868 | \$ 1,821 | \$ 1,467 |
| 1.0040 Asset Management | 5,099 | 1,974 | 1,131 | 437 | 554 | 214 | 138 | |
| | 47,322 | 35,996 | 10,494 | 7,981 | 7,836 | 6,082 | 1,959 | 1,521 |
| LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING 2.0428 Update the 2025 Transportation Plan | 13,160 | 13,200 | 2,918 | 2,927 | 2,270 | 2,277 | 567 | 995 |
| SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING 2.0520 Short Range Transit Planning | | | | • | 3,004 | 2,242 | 751 | 995 |
| IL P | 11,431 | 10,680 | 2,535 | 2,368 | 2,793 | 2,610 | 869 | 653 |
| 2.0618 Coord. with Statewide Planning | 4,572 | 3,565 | 1,014 | 790 | 496 | 387 | 124 | 76 |
| 2.0619 Special Studies | 3,854 | 3,489 | 854 | 774 | 999 | 602 | 166 | 150 |
| | 6,123 | 5,562 | 1,358 | 1,233 | 1,496 | 1,359 | 374 | 340 |
| 2.0643 Freight Planning | 429 | 462 | 95 | 103 | • | • | • | • |
| Subtotal | 26,409 | 23,758 | 5,856 | 5,268 | 5,450 | 4,958 | 1,362 | 1,240 |
| PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT 3.0000 Public Involvement | 4,220 | 3,477 | 936 | 171 | 728 | 009 | 182 | 150 |
| 3.0001 Transportation and Safety Education | 5,503 | 4,230 | 1,220 | 938 | 949 | 730 | 237 | 183 |
| Subtotal | 9,723 | 7,707 | 2,156 | 1,709 | 1,677 | 1,330 | 419 | 333 |
| PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT 4.0102 Prospectus and Unified Work Program | T 4,393 | 4,116 | 974 | 913 | 1.074 | 1.006 | 268 | 252 |
| 4.0103 Program Management | 28,123 | 25,854 | 6,236 | 5,733 | 6,872 | 6,317 | 1,718 | 1,579 |
| Subtotal | 32,516 | 29,970 | 7,210 | 6,646 | 7,946 | 7,323 | 1,986 | 1,831 |
| TOTAL | \$ 129,130 | \$ 110,631 | \$ 28,634 | \$ 24,531 | \$ 28,183 | \$ 24,212 | \$ 7,044 | \$ 6,054 |

Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Schedule of Expenses by Funding Source - Budget and Actual (Concluded) For the Year Ended September 30, 2004

| | | 2 | Michigan Department of Transportation | nt of Transport | ation | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|--------|---------|
| | | 100% I | 100% Reimbursed | 100% R | 100% Reimbursed | | | |
| | | Asset M | Asset Management | Š | Safety | | | |
| Work | | #2003-0005(2 | #2003-0005(Z3) (Proj.#MTF) | #2003-0001(Z | #2003-0001(Z7) (Proj.#MTF) | Te | Totals | |
| Element | Description | Budget | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Y | Actual |
| DATA CO | DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS | | | | | | | |
| 1.0000 | Data Collection and Analysis | , ~ | · •> | ' ∽ | •• | \$ 60,689 | ٠ | 48,901 |
| 1.0040 | Asset Management | 20,000 | 8,550 | • | • | 26,922 | | 11,229 |
| | | 20,000 | 8,550 | | • | 87,611 | | 60,130 |
| LONG R. 2.0428 | LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING 2.0428 Update the 2025 Transportation Plan | • | • | • | • | 18,915 | | 18,973 |
| SHORT F 2.0520 | SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING 2.0520 Short Range Transit Planning | • | ٠ | • | • | 3.755 | | 2.802 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| SPECIAL 2.0601 | SPECIAL PROJECTS AND STUDIES 2.0601 Transportation Improvement Program | • | • | • | • | 17.457 | | 16 311 |
| 2.0618 | Coord. with Statewide Planning | • | • | • | • | 6.206 | | 4.839 |
| 2.0619 | Special Studies | • | • | • | • | 5,539 | | 5,015 |
| 2.0641 | Safety Issues | • | • | 1,500 | 252 | 10,851 | | 8,746 |
| 2.0643 | Freight Planning | • | • | • | • | 524 | | 565 |
| | Subtotal | • | • | 1,500 | 252 | 40,577 | | 35,476 |
| PUBLIC | PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT | | | | | | | |
| 3.0000 | Public Involvement | • | • | • | • | 990'9 | | 4,998 |
| 3.0001 | Transportation and Safety Education | • | • | • | • | 7,909 | | 6,081 |
| | Subtotal | • | | • | • | 13,975 | | 11,079 |
| PROGRA | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT | | | | | | | |
| 4.0102 | Prospectus and Unified Work Program | • | • | • | • | 6,709 | | 6,287 |
| 4.0103 | Program Management | • | • | • | • | 42,949 | | 39,483 |
| | Subtotal | • | | • | 1 | 49,658 | | 45,770 |
| | TOTAL | \$ 20,000 | \$ 8,550 | \$ 1,500 | \$ 252 | \$ 214,491 | S | 174,230 |

Schedule of Allowable Costs

(exclusive of costs provided by local governments) For the Year Ended September 30, 2004

| _ | |] | Direct | <u>I</u> | ndirect | | Total |
|---------|--|--------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | Salaries and wages | \$ | 54,470 | \$ | 27,534 | \$ | 82,004 |
| _ | Fringe benefits | | 31,756 | | 16,052 | | 47,808 |
| | Office supplies | | - | | 2,266 | | 2,266 |
| _ | Printing and copying | | - | | 480 | | 480 |
| | Postage | | - | | 394 | | 394 |
| | Membership and subscriptions | | - | | 322 | | 322 |
| - | Professional services | | • | | 2,432 | | 2,432 |
| | Bookkeeping services | | - | | 3,300 | | 3,300 |
| | Training and travel | | - | | 2,963 | | 2,963 |
| | Communications | | - | | 2,407 | | 2,407 |
| | Insurance and bonds | ٠ | - | | 4,569 | | 4,569 |
| | Office equipment maintenance | | - | | 1,518 | | 1,518 |
| | Rent | | - | | 4,000 | | 4,000 |
| | Depreciation | | - | | 5,230 | | 5,230 |
| _ | | \$ | 86,226 | \$ | 73,467 | \$ | 159,693 |
| _ | Other direct costs | | 2,900 | | | | |
| | Indirect costs as a percentage of direct payroll and | fringe | penefits | | 85.203% | | |
| | Fringe benefits as a percentage of salaries and way | ges | | | | | 58.300% |
| _ | ı | | | | | | |
| | Fringe benefit detail | | | | | | |
| _ | Vacation, sick and holidays | \$ | 8,521 | \$ | 4,308 | \$ | 12,829 |
| | Social security and Medicare | | 5,044 | | 2,550 | | 7,594 |
| | Retirement contribution | | 9,991 | | 5,050 | | 15,041 |
| | Health and welfare | | 7,594 | | 3,838 | | 11,432 |
| | Workers' compensation and unemployment | | 606 | | 306 | | 912 |
| , | | \$ | 31,756 | \$ | 16,052 | \$ | 47,808 |

November 19, 2004

To the Policy Committee of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Springfield, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study as of and for the year ended September 30, 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2004. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility Under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated November 8, 2004, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Because of the concept of reasonable assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material errors, fraud, or other illegal acts may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Study's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting.

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we advised management about the appropriateness of accounting polices and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Study are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Study during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

■ Management's estimate of the useful lives of depreciable capital assets – i.e., the length of time it is believed that those assets will provide some economic benefit in the future. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful lives of those assets in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Significant Audit Adjustments

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a significant audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. The Study has posted all journal entries that we have identified as significant, and their effect is included in the Study's financial statements.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Study's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

This letter and the accompanying memorandum are intended for the use of the Policy Committee and management of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Very truly yours,

Rehmann Lobson